



High Priority
3/26/03
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kenji HORI

Group Art Unit: 2873

Application No.: 10/032,093

Examiner: M.A. Hasan

Filed: December 31, 2001

Docket No.: 111608

For: OPTICAL COMPONENT THICKNESS ADJUSTMENT METHOD, OPTICAL COMPONENT, AND POSITION ADJUSTMENT METHOD FOR OPTICAL COMPONENT

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

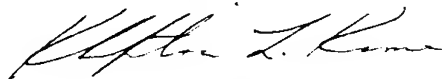
In reply to the February 26, 2003 Restriction Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1, 3, 5 and 7, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-8 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

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Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC/KXH:kxm

Date: March 26, 2003

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